

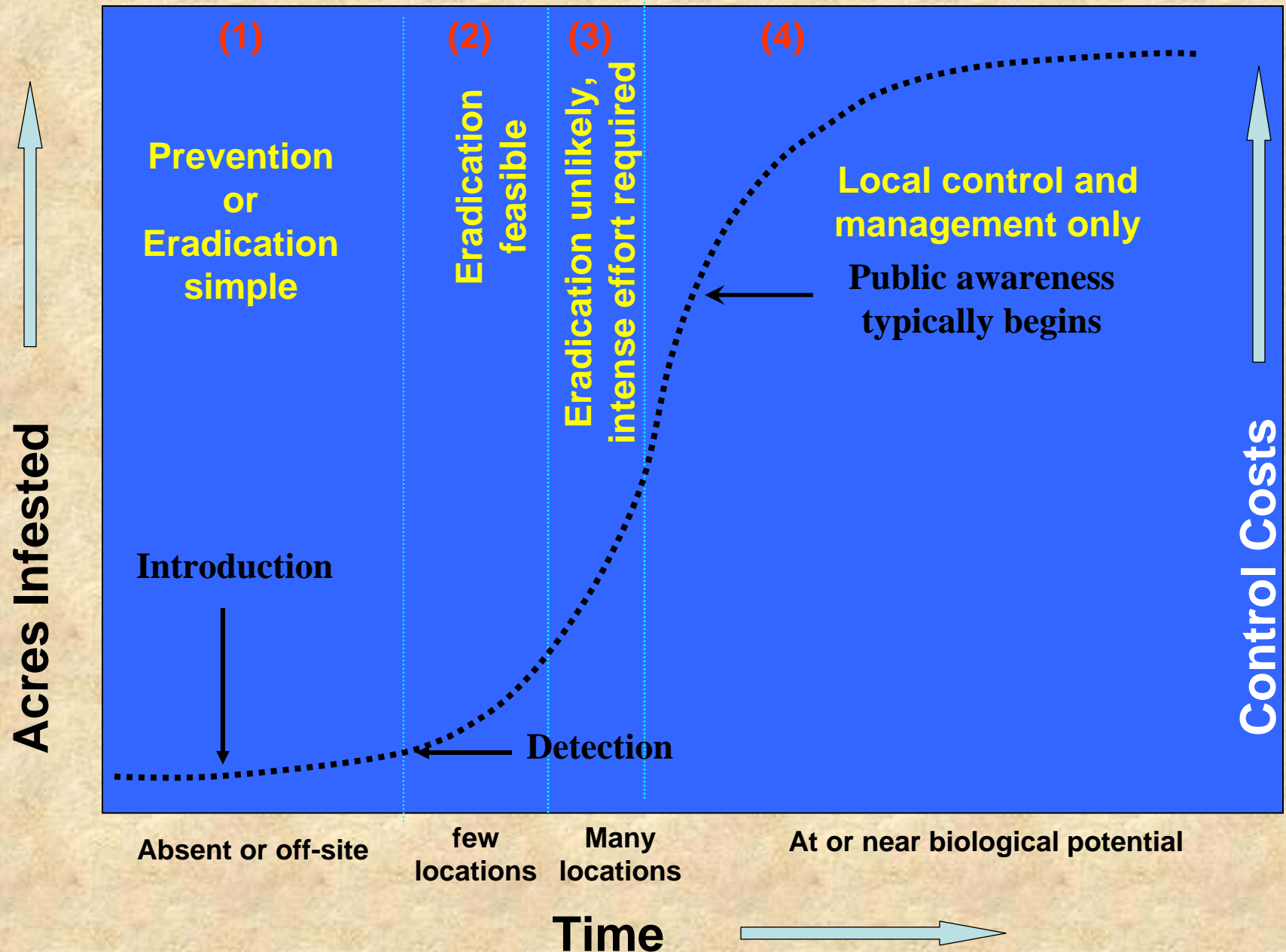
Best Management Practices for Invasive Species & NR40



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Weed Increase Over Time and Control Potential



Goal- *Remember this!*

Limit the introduction and spread of invasive terrestrial plants, insects and diseases.



Oriental bittersweet

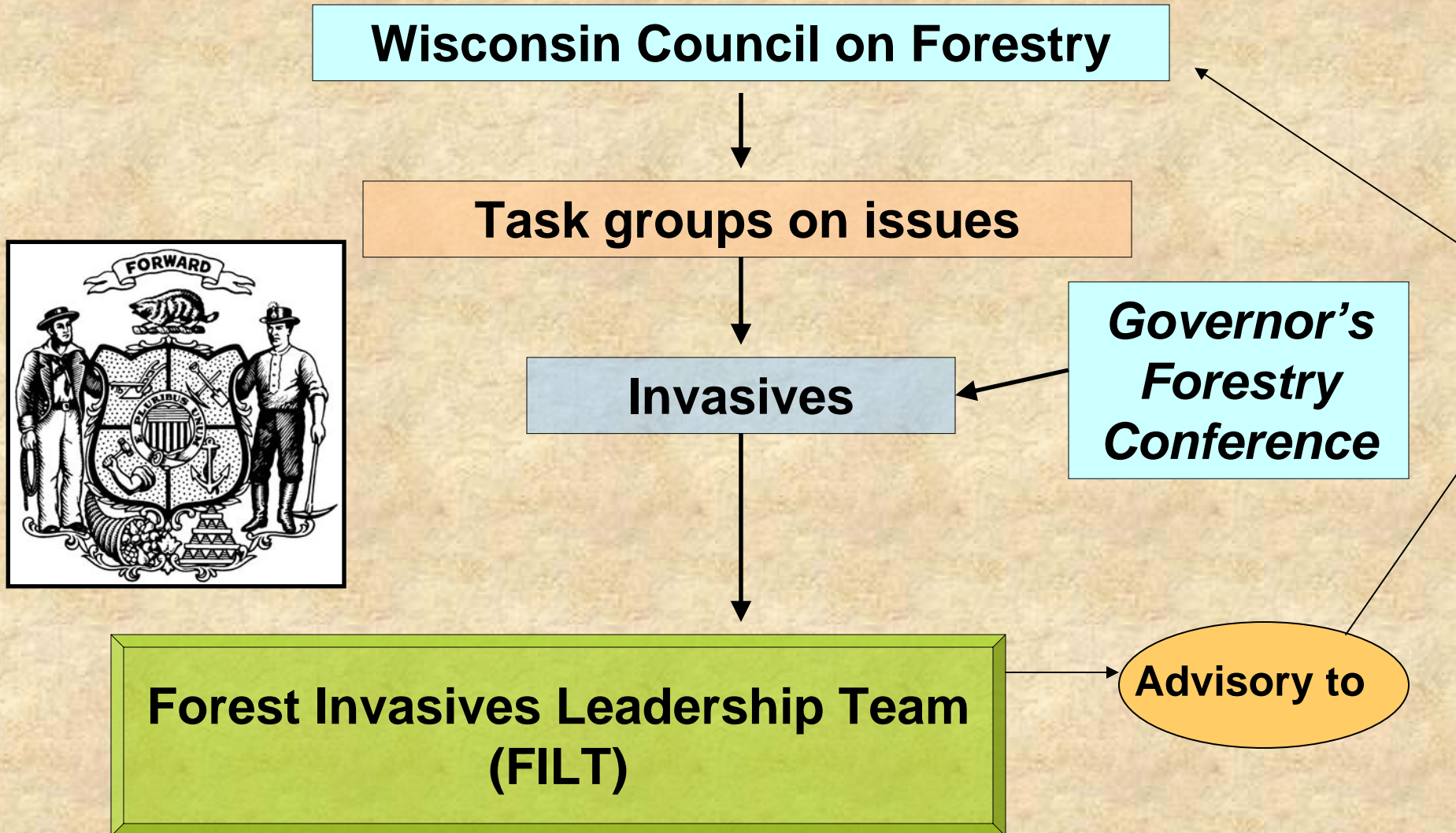


Emerald ash borer



Oak wilt

How the Best Management Practices (BMP) process got started



How the BMP process got started

Wisconsin Council on Forestry

***Governor's
Forestry
Conference***

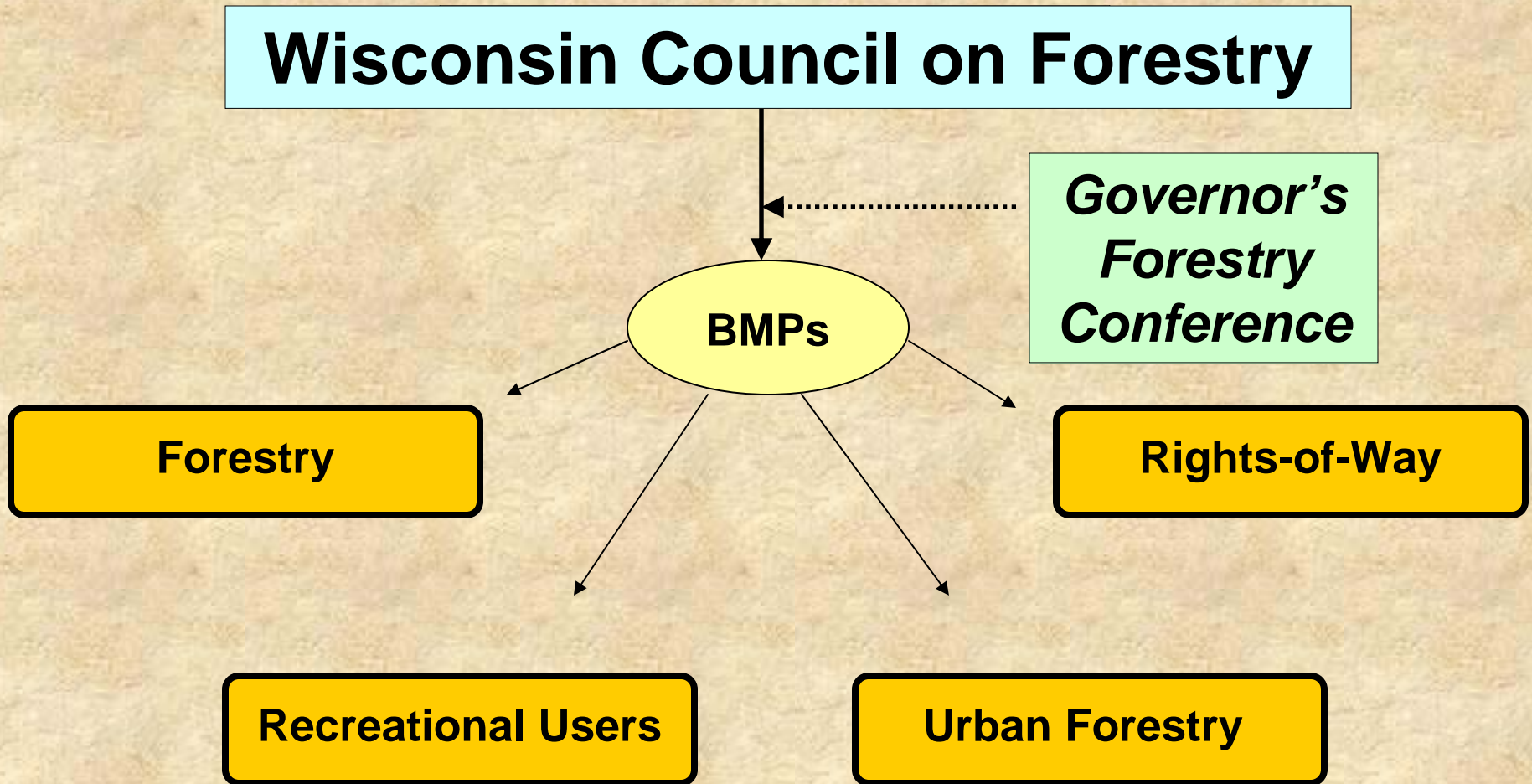
BMPs

Forestry

Rights-of-Way

Recreational Users

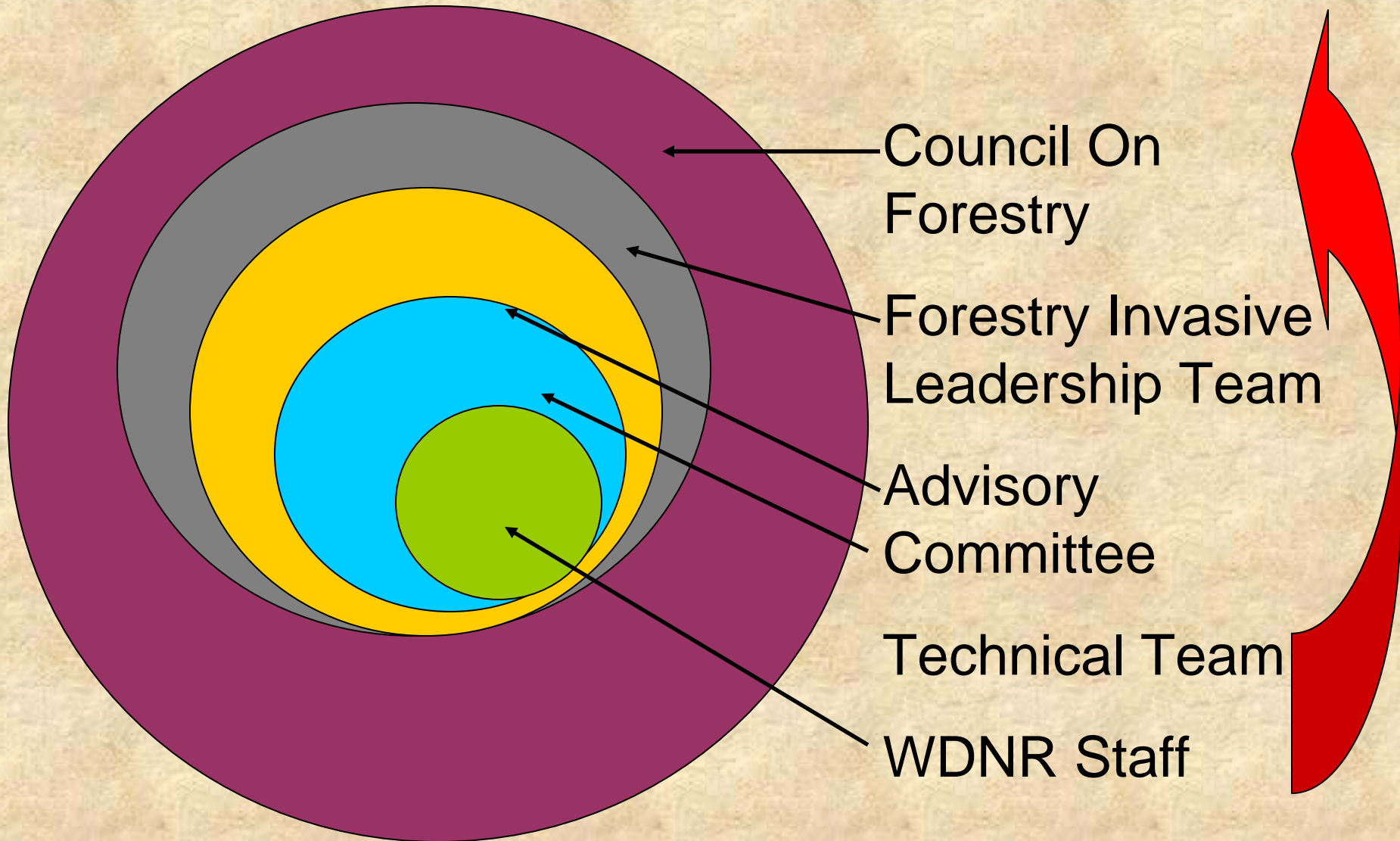
Urban Forestry



Process

- **Each track created an Advisory Committee of stakeholders and partners.**
- **Each track had a technical team that drafted the language for approval by AC.**
- **WDNR staff, funded by USFS grant, was on TT and administered the process.**

Process



Four Parallel BMP Tracks

- **Forestry**

- *Loggers, Foresters, Landowners*

- **Recreational Users**

- *Campers, Hikers, ATV riders, Horse riders, Bicyclists, Land Managers, etc.*

- **Urban Forestry**

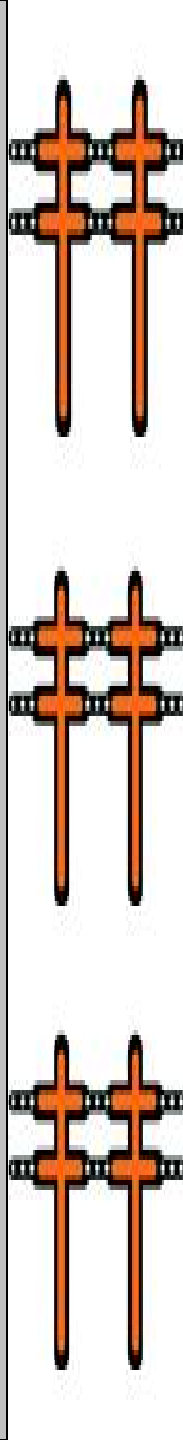
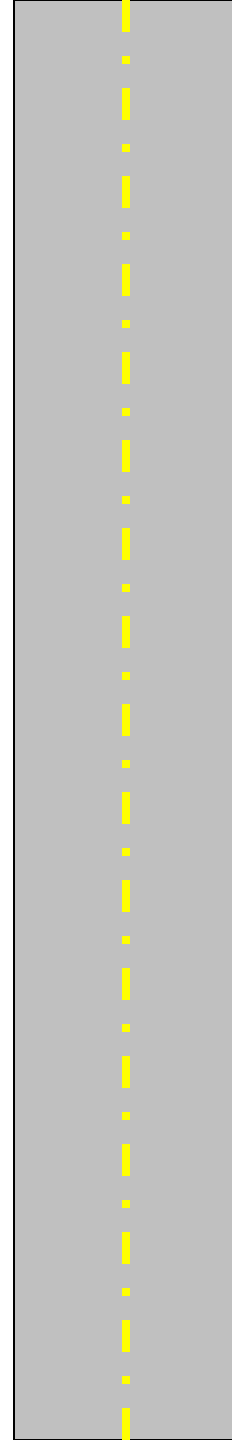
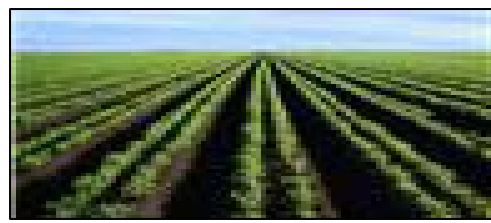
- *Urban Foresters, Arborists, Nurseries, Landscapers, etc.*

- **Rights of Way**

- *DOT, County/Township Roads Managers, Utilities, etc.*



ATV impacts in northern WI



What are BMPs?

- **Flexible** -- a list of guidelines
- **Process of continual learning and adapting**
- **Reflects different needs and resources based on each situation**

*****Not intended to be
a control manual***



What are BMPs?

- Identifies effective and realistic practices
- Recognizes extenuating circumstances and wide range of response options
- Integrate into routine activities



What are BMPs?

- Take reasonable precautions today, to protect the integrity of Wisconsin's landscape
- Response options need to recognize:
 - Degree of threat
 - Objectives of landowner
 - Resources available
 - Costs



Why BMPs?

- ***You are never free from the threat!***



kudzu

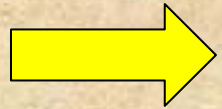
- ***Prevention is key to saving on long term impacts and costs***

BMP Structure

→BMP Statement:

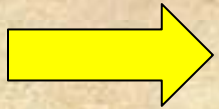
- **describes voluntary practices that may reduce the impact of invasive species**
- Considerations:
 - give more information about why important
 - used to address the BMP
 - include details, suggestions, examples, and issues to consider
 - may not apply to every species or situation
 - user does not necessarily have to follow them to address the BMP

Common BMP Themes



Planning

Education



Cleaning



Avoidance



Minimize disturbance

Use clean materials

Process

- **Consensus based**
 - **Challenging at times**
 - **Critical part of getting “buy-in” from all stakeholders**
- **Hired a facilitator**

Some highlights:

Forestry Track:

- **Cleaning equipment- scrape or brush**
- **Scope and Purpose**
- **Checklist of responsibility**
- **Revegetation species list**
- **Created a short list to more easily ID and implement**

Some highlights:

Recreation Track:

- Different audience- not professional, thus different tone



Some highlights:

Urban Forestry Track:

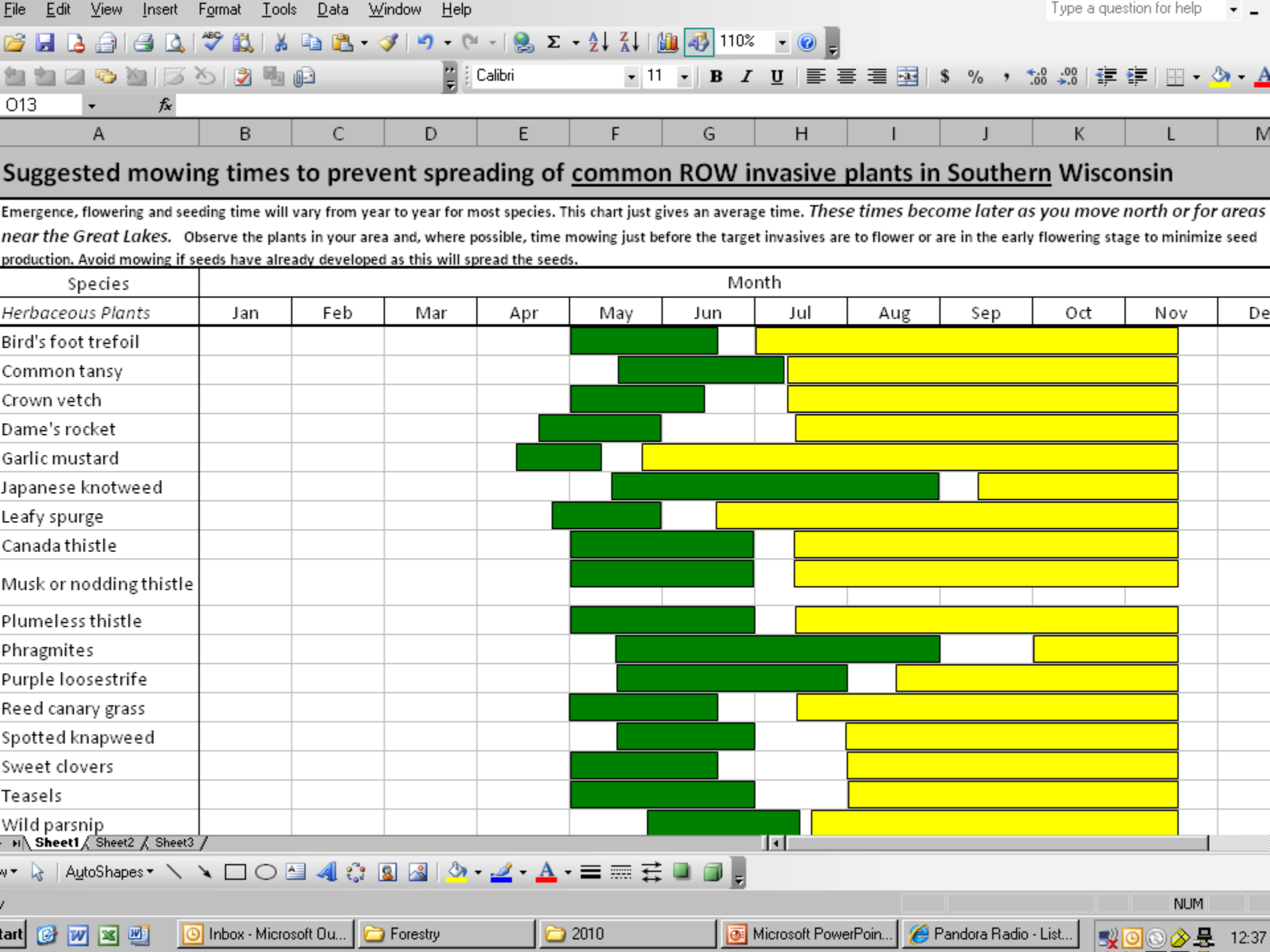
- Addresses sales and disposal
- Large section of available resources



Some highlights:

Utility and Transportation Corridor Track:

- **Mowing timing guidance**



Where to find the BMPs?

Encourage all of you to review the BMPs by going to

www.council.wisconsinforestry.org

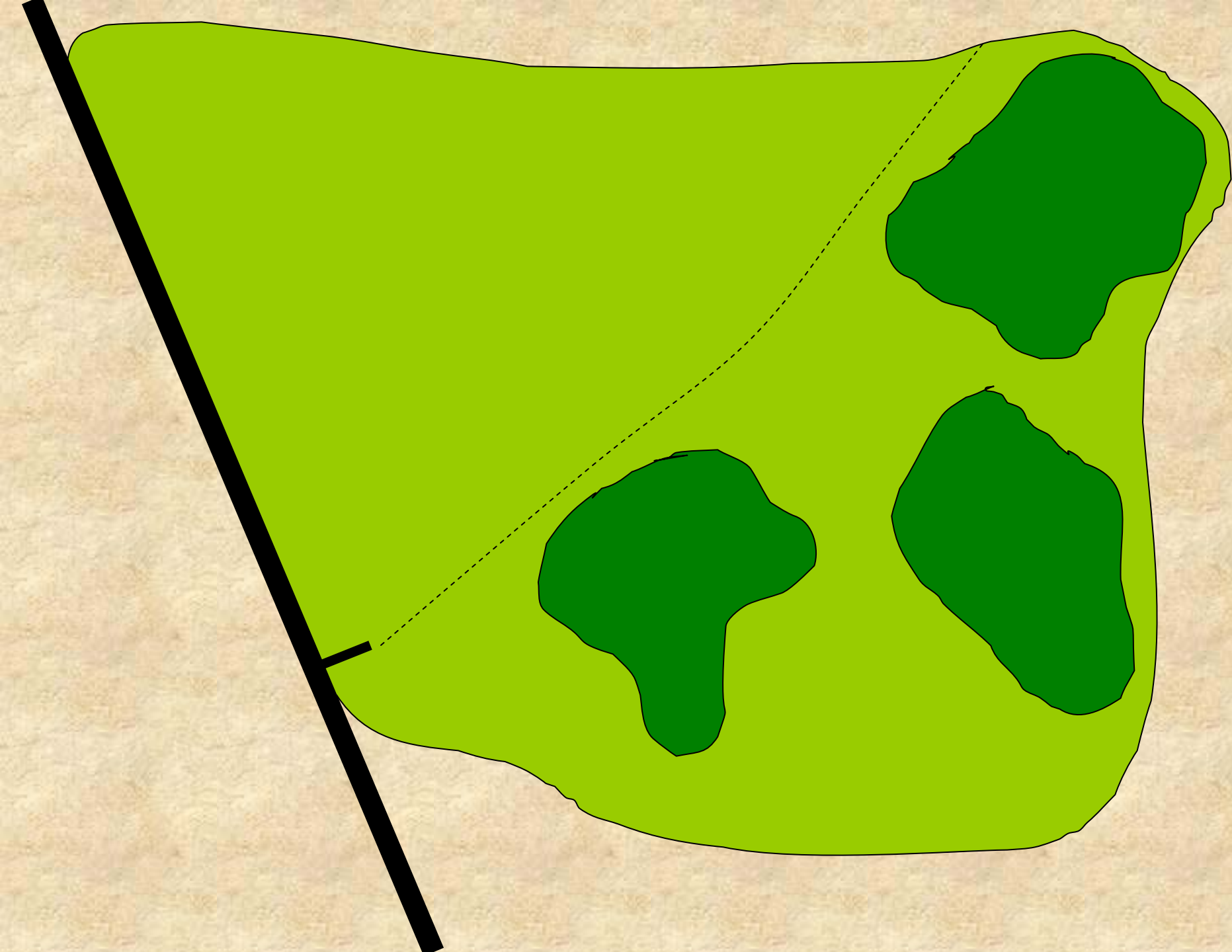
EXAMPLE



While doing scouting for a timber harvest, you find that there is a distinct area that is infested with hundreds of buckthorn saplings with ripe fruit. There is another area that is relatively free of invasive plants?

What do you do?

See BMPs- 3.4, 4.5



EXAMPLE

BMP 4.3- Consider the likely response of invasive species or target species when prescribing activities that result in soil disturbance or increased sunlight



EXAMPLE



EXAMPLE

- Sale in a white and red pine stand (3rd thinning)
- Observed common buckthorn seedlings (especially along a field edge, mainly in the white pines).
- Prior to putting the sale out for bids:
pulled all the seedlings I could find
sprayed a few that were a little bigger.

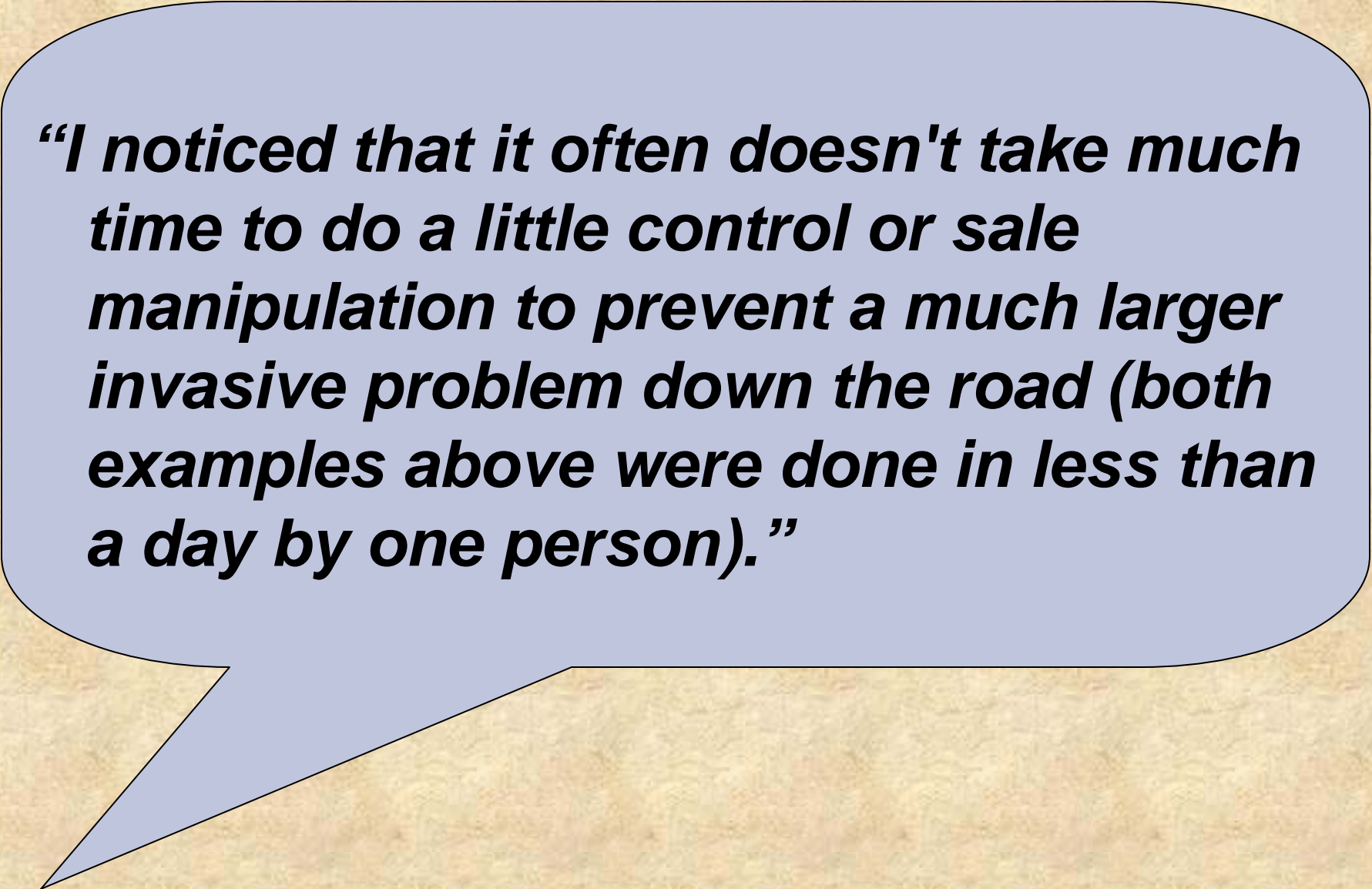
“Chances are with the increased light, these seedlings would have grown quickly following the thinning. Also, many would have probably been run over, causing them to re-sprout and making it much more difficult to remove them.”

Since there was a good deal of oak and hardwood regeneration (both seeds and saplings), our prescription was to eventually convert the stand to northern hardwoods.

“By removing the buckthorn early, I believe we averted a future infestation. However, since buckthorn is present on private lands in the area, seedling removal may be necessary for future thinnings (but it's still better than waiting too long and trying to remove fruiting saplings in the future).”



It took about 20 minutes to finish processor and forwarder, and used about 200 gallons of water. “In reality, it would be the easiest for loggers to stop by at a truck stop to do cleaning.”



“I noticed that it often doesn't take much time to do a little control or sale manipulation to prevent a much larger invasive problem down the road (both examples above were done in less than a day by one person).”

Who will pay the costs of invasive species??

- **Producers** – Through reduced timber yields and more expenses for control measures?
- **Loggers** – Through more effort and expense for less production?
- **Mills** - Through less wood or higher stumpage?
- **Taxpayers** – Through more subsidies and cost-sharing support for forestry?
- **Annosum example**

BMPs-- Status

- Education – ongoing and often
- Intent of USFS funding
 - Develop BMPs
 - Use as template for other states
 - Modify as needed, but use them

Trails at Risk from Invasive Species

A photograph showing three people riding ATVs on a dirt trail through a forest. The person in the foreground is on a black ATV, the middle person is on a red one, and the person in the background is on a yellow one. They are all wearing helmets and casual outdoor clothing.

INVASIVE SPECIES are taking over our parks and natural areas making it difficult to enjoy nature.

You can play a critical role in slowing the spread of invasive species.

WHAT MOTORIZED VEHICLE USERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT INVASIVES

- Invasive species are nonnative plants, animals, and diseases that can cause harm to the economy, environment, and human health.
- Invasive plants tend to reproduce and grow quickly making trails impassable. They affect wildlife shelter and food sources by reducing native plant populations which also leads to soil erosion.
- Invasive insects and diseases can kill trees.

WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH MOTORIZED VEHICLE USERS?

- Invasive plant seeds, insects, and diseases can be moved on equipment, such as mud on tires or seeds with burrs on clothes and shoes.
- Concerns about spreading invasive species may endanger access to lands and trails in the future.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Learn to recognize invasive species.
- Wear clothing and footwear that do not attract seeds.
- Inspect and clean hair, clothing, shoes, and gear before and after recreating.
- Clean your equipment before and after use.
- Properly dispose of soil, seeds, or plant parts from cleaning.
- Minimize soil disturbance; stay on designated trails, roads, and other developed areas.
- Avoid areas that are infested with invasive species; "When in doubt, stay out!"



For more information on this and other recreational user groups (Anglers, Animal-Based, Bicyclists, Hikers, Hunters), visit the Recreation Best Management Practices at: <http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/invasives/>

Public Awareness

- **Increasing every day**
- **Loggers and foresters even more so**



Ch. NR 40 - Invasive Species Identification, Classification and Control Rules

- As mandated by WI Legislature under 23.22, WI Statutes
- Effective as of September 1, 2009





Regulatory Categories

Prohibited — Not yet in the state or established in pioneer stands only; still have potential to eradicate and prevent statewide; high potential for environmental damage if widely established.

Restricted — Already established in the state; high environmental impacts





Regulated activities differ by category

Prohibited – No person may transport (import/move), **possess**, transfer (buy/sell) or introduce a prohibited species without a permit.

The department may order or conduct a control effort.

Restricted – No person may transport (import/move), **possess (fish only)**, transfer (buy/sell) or introduce a restricted species without a permit.

Control encouraged but not required.



© Photo by
Elizabeth J. Czarapata

Transport, possession, transfer or introduction is **not** considered a violation if:

- the Department determines the action was incidental or unknowing, and
- the person took “reasonable precautions”

***Reasonable precautions include
approved Best Management Practices***